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VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Brunswick COUNTY

1950

Agent Sara H. Winfield Date worked from _____ to _____

Assistant Agent Mattie Leah Walker January 1 Feb. 1
Date worked from _____ to _____

Agent _____ Date worked from _____ to _____

Assistant Agent _____ Date worked from _____ to _____

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Summary of Accomplishments

The objectives for Extension work in Brunswick County are to stimulate in the people an awareness of the part they can play in making their communities more wholesome and attractive places in which to live, and to develop in women and girls a desire to want to develop and use material resources in ways that contribute to better health, homes and living through demonstrations.

These objectives could not be reached in a year; therefore, the adult club members chose to work on slip covers, salads from the garden, school lunches and continue to work on yard improvement. The 4-H Club members worked on "Looking Your Best," housekeeping, garden, poultry and food preservation.

In order to do this there are three county wide planning bodies working together; the County Advisory Board, the over-all planning body which sets up county goals and programs; the Home Demonstration Committee, the body that makes county goals, and a program for the nine Home Demonstration clubs; and the county 4-H Council. Some of the members of the Advisory Board are members of the other two organizations; therefore, all know the main objectives set up for the county and all are able to work to reach the same goal.

With the untiring assistance of the supervising agents, specialist ~~visits~~ from Blacksburg, community and neighborhood leaders, the agencies in the county, the personnel at Virginia State College, the state experiment stations, the personnel at Saint Pauls Polytechnic Institute, and the cooperation of the people in the county, that progress has been made in reaching the goals.

The agent and assistant agent worked 314 days. 127 days were

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72

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spent in the office doing extension planning, writing letters, attending extension conferences and doing general office work and 187 days were spent in the field. 122 days were spent working with 4-H Club members and 192 days spent with adults. 202 persons came to the office and 19 telephone calls were made and received. 436 visits were made to 207 farm homes. Seventeen adult leader training meetings were held for 134 leaders, 121 leaders were given 4-H training in fourteen training meetings. Sixty-two demonstrations were given to 1,737 4-H Club members.

Leaders gave 28 demonstrations to adults and 126 demonstrations to 4-H Club members. Leaders gave 285 days of assistance during the year. They held 29 adult meetings with an attendance of 433 and 63 junior meetings with an attendance of 2,121 and nine junior meetings with an attendance of 823 persons were participated in by the agent.

The adult result demonstrations were conducted, two in yard improvement and eight in poultry.

The county 4-H Council sponsored one county wide meeting; Rural Life Sunday. This body sent delegates to the Wildlife Conference and State Short Course. The Advisory Board sponsored one county-wide meeting, The Farmers' Institute, a county tour and sent two delegates to the State Advisory Board meeting. The Home Demonstration committee sent delegates to the District Home Demonstration Committee meeting.

A summary of reports from the fifteen organized 4-H Clubs with a membership of 168 girls reveals that sixteen acres of garden were raised by 74 girls. Sixty-three girls completed the project with a profit of \$427.35. Thirty girls with food preservation canned 739 jars of food alone and helped to can 261 jars. Thirty members

helped to make a plan for the amount of tomatoes needed and eighteen members completed the project and exhibited some of the work. Thirty-three girls chose poultry and raised 1,750 birds with a profit of \$437.50. Twenty-nine girls completed this project.

One hundred and sixty-eight girls enrolled in the project, "Looking Your Best" with 147 completing the project. 168 girls enrolled in housekeeping with 133 members completing.

The 135 members in nine adult clubs made slipcovers for 20 chairs, three sofas and six studio sofas. 115 made improvement in the type of lunch packed for school students. Seventy-four families reported that the members of their families are eating vegetables that they had formerly refused as a result of demonstrations.

It is felt that through this work a step has been made in meeting some of the longtime county goals.

Project Work

Slipcovers

Many families had purchased upholstered furniture in recent years. This furniture needed protection from the dust, dirt and hard wear. Other persons owned furniture which was badly worn but strong and sturdy. The women decided to make slipcovers in order to get more wear from the furniture and to protect it. Demonstrations, in dyeing fabrics to be used in making covers, selection of materials, measuring of chairs and sofas, fitting and cutting covers, plackets, and making the covers, were given. As a result of 18 demonstrations, twenty chair covers, three sofa covers and six studio covers were made.

Packed Lunches

Most of the rural elementary schools do not have lunch rooms;

therefore, the parents were anxious to have their children well fed. They realize that a child cannot do his best work if he is hungry and ill fed. Demonstrations were given in making sandwiches, making spreads, foods to include in the lunch box, suitable containers for carrying lunches, and wrapping lunch sandwiches. As a result of these demonstrations more children are carrying attractive, nourishing lunches, and teachers note a change in the response of the children in schools. The children now have lunches that they are not ashamed to open.

The new high school was opened before the lunchroom was ready and the parents were able to pack lunches for them, as there was no place nearby where they could purchase lunches.

Small Electric Equipment

Electricity has reached most of the homes of rural families. Each mother or homemaker was anxious to get small electrical equipment in order to save time and energy. After purchasing this equipment care had to be taken in order to save the equipment. Nine demonstrations were given to club members on the care of irons, waffle irons, toasters, fans, hot plates, grills, and percolators. It is hoped that from these demonstrations better care will be taken of small electric equipment.

Salads From the Gardens

We do not eat enough raw vegetables. We say we do not like them, we do not like the looks, we have never tasted the vegetables, or any reason to keep from eating many vegetables. This being true the club members chose to work on salads from the gardens. Then too, they wanted to feed the family balanced meals. Nine demonstrations were given in making vegetable salads and suitable dressings. As a result,

seventy-four families reported that the members of their families were eating vegetables that they had formerly refused.

Home Poultry Flock Improvement Demonstrations

Eight families are working with Mr. A. L. Dean, Associate poultry husbandman of the extension service, in order to improve their home flocks. The families are scored twice a year on the flock, housing, equipment and feed. Much progress has been made by these persons and each seems anxious to improve her flock, realizing that she will get more eggs, thus increasing in a small way, the family income.

During the year, four leader training meetings in culling were held at the homes of four demonstrators. More than 300 birds were culled by the 22 leaders present.

The District Home Demonstration Meeting

During National Home Demonstration week, the members of the county home demonstration committee attended the second district meeting which was held in Petersburg. Mrs. Pattie Easter of the J. A. Green Club was appointed a member of the program planning committee. Mrs. Easter made a report at the county home demonstration planning meeting and members from all clubs pledged their support in aiding her to do their jobs so that she will be able to make a report at the next district meeting next May.

Farmers' Institute

The Annual Farmers' Institute was held in Lawrenceville in February with 150 farm men and women present. The theme of the meeting was "Planning Today for Tomorrow's Harvest." The following topics were discussed on the program; "Youth Training Today for Service Tomorrow Through 4-H Clubs," Tobacco Diseases and Their Control," "The

1950 Pasture Program," "The Outlook for 1950," and "The Loans Available Through the Farm Home Administration."

County Tour

Forty-five persons joined in a tour of the Northside of the county, sponsored by the county Advisory Board. Demonstrations in kitchen improvement, water and sewerage systems, tobacco, yard improvement, poultry, livestock and flowers were seen at the eight farms and homes visited. Four of the homes visited with the water demonstration had the water pump placed in a different location, thus giving the visitors ideas on the placement of water pumps when they install water systems.

Mrs. Zebedee Aldredge of Adsit, has 54 different kinds of flowers and shrubs. She has a flower or shrub to bloom the year round. As music soothes the minds of most people, working in flowers soothes the mind of Mrs. Aldredge.

Community Activities

As home demonstration club members repeat together the club creed they realize that in order to help themselves they have to help other people and that the club is to be of benefit to every institution in the community. With these thoughts in mind, the clubs of the county are seeking to do some tangible things. During the year the clubs made United Nations flags and presented them to three schools, a lamp was purchased for the lectern in a newly built church, shrubs were planted and underbrush at another church cleared, all clubs gave baskets to the sick and less fortunate.

Other Activities

The club members often repeat the parable "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Of course they do not want to be too dull so they mix a little pleasure in with the work during the year. At

Christmas each club has a party at the end of the meeting at which time gifts are exchanged and games are played.

In August the clubs had a community picnic where their friends and families joined in fun and merry making. The Greentown Club members went to Prince Edward Lake for a picnic with their families and friends.

4-H Clubs

Looking Your Best

After 4-H Club members worked on the project "Care of Clothing," they became very conscious of the way they looked. Hence the 168 club members chose the project "Looking Your Best." All members were given rating sheets so that they could be able to score themselves on their appearance at the beginning of the project and again at the end. Demonstrations were given by the agent and leaders on the following: care of the skin, hands, feet, shoes and teeth. Better posture; care and repair of hosiery; storing clothing; care of sweaters; and quick repairs.

One hundred and forty-seven girls completed the project. Eighty-five members gave demonstrations. The following number of members improved care of: feet 125, hands 138, hair 130, skin 163, posture 123 and teeth 138. The following number of members: provided shoe shine kits 143, stored clothing seasonally 153, made quick repairs 149, replaced hems 137, practiced care of hosiery 126, hung up clothing when removed 118, laundered sweaters 83 and improved on rating sheets, 125

This progress was made with the assistance of 32 adult and junior project leaders.

Housekeeping

The H-E Club girls are beauty conscious and want their surroundings to look as nice as they look. Therefore they chose housekeeping in order to make the work easy and to make their homes more attractive. The fifteen adult leaders and eight junior leaders gave forty-three demonstrations to the 163 club members. Members gave 14 demonstrations. 133 members completed the project. The members did the following: 133 members cared for rooms three or more months, 122 lengthened or renovated sheets, 83 equipped tool boxes, twenty-seven repaired chair rounds, 149 provided a place for personal things.

Garden and Food Preservation

The H-E Club members are working with the adults to make this one of the best fed counties in the state. They are doing this through project work in gardening and preservation projects. Seventy-four girls raised 16 acres of garden. Sixty-three members completed their projects with a profit of \$427.35; total receipts were \$1,025 and expenses were \$697.65.

Thirty of the girls with garden chose food preservation with twenty-five completing the project. There were seven adult leaders and six junior leaders who gave thirteen demonstrations. 639 jars of food were canned by members without assistance while they helped to can 261 jars. Thirty members helped to make a plan of the amount of tomatoes needed and eighteen members helped to make a plan for all food needed by the families. Twenty-five girls made exhibits of the products canned. The girls judged the canned foods nine times.

Poultry

We need proteins in our diet and eggs and meat are good

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72

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a s sources of this food substance. Thirty-three members selected poultry as their project, thus enabling them to provide food and a small cash receipt from their project. Twenty-nine members completed the project. 1,750 birds were recorded to have been raised at a cost of \$1,087.50. Total receipts were \$1,525, giving a net profit of \$437.50.

National 4-H Club Week

Since all club meetings do not fall during National 4-H Club week, the month is set aside for the club month. All clubs plan special programs for the month at which time they rededicate themselves to 4-H Club work. Three of the outstanding programs were presented by the Greentown, Hickory Run and Oak Grove Clubs. The members of the Greentown Club presented a program at the regular chapel exercises at the county high school. The Oak Grove Club members presented a program and a movie on Rat Control at the Senior League meeting.

The Hickory Run Club members invited their parents and friends of the community to a special program at the regular meeting. A movie was shown, a demonstration was given, and refreshments were served. These special meetings gave the public an opportunity to see and learn some of the things that the 4-H Club members are doing.

Community Activities

The members of the Saint Paul Chapel, Oak Grove and Virginia Morgan Russell 4-H Clubs did some work in beautifying the school yards. The members of the Oak Grove Club planted shrubery; while

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while the members of the Virginia Morgan Russell and Saint Paul Chapel Clubs improved a lawn area in front of the school. The Virginia Morgan Russell members painted logs and enclosed an area where grass was planted.

To improve the sanitary conditions at the schools the members of the Virginia Morgan Russell clubs kept the toilets clean and disinfected. They helped the school to keep a supply of toilet tissue on hand at all times.

State Short Course

The council sent five girls, three boys and three adult leaders to the State Short Course. These persons were selected by their clubs on the merit of their work and character and approved by the council. The secretary of the State Short Course and a winner in the garden contest, sponsored by the Colonial Stores also attended this activity. These delegates were able to take a part in all of the activities of the short course, meet boys and girls from other counties and bring much valuable information back to their clubs. As a result other club members are anxious to attend the short course as delegates from the county; thus stimulating more interest in project work since it is the basis on which members are chosen.

The secretary of the State Short Course is a club member from this county.

Rural Life Sunday

The Sixth Annual County-wide Rural Life Services were held in May. The sermon was delivered by a former 4-H Club member

from the county. Two hundred and fifty members, leaders, parents and friends attended the services. The program was planned by the Rural Life Sunday committee and conducted by club members. Each year an increased number of persons join the members in worship.

Educational Tours

The leaders and some of the officers of the St. Paul Chapel, Oak Grove and Hickory Run Clubs met to decide on an educational tour. Several places were considered before deciding upon Washington, the nation's capital. Committees were appointed to plan the places to visit, and arrange transportation.

Thirty-six eager clubbers and their leaders made the trip in May. They visited Mount Vernon, the Museum of Natural History, Washington Monument, Smithsonian Institute, the Zoological gardens and the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. Blair House, the White House and the Department Buildings were pointed out to the group as they rode through the city.

The members returned to their clubs with a keener appreciation for some of the places and incidents that had been studied in classes and with the H-head developed.

The members of the Thomasburg H-H Club made a trip closer home. They visited BUGGS Island Dam, a structure when completed will be the largest dam in this section of the country.

They were able to see men at work constructing the dam and to enjoy a picnic on the beautiful picnic grounds.

Recreation

To have all work and no fun makes an unbalanced program. Therefore the H-H Club members have picnics, parties and trips

during the year. The members of the Greentown club made a trip to Prince Edward Lake, a state park, during the summer. They were able to swim, boat, fish, play games and enjoy the day away from home. The members of the J. A. Green and Thomasburg clubs went to Buggs Island Dam where they were able to see the dam under construction and enjoy a picnic on the grounds.

Other clubs had picnics in their communities. They invited their parents and friends to join them in playing games, roasting wieners, and an afternoon of fun and merrymaking.

Scope of Work

	1948	1949	1950
Number Home Demonstration Clubs or Groups	9	9	9
Membership	135	135	135
No. 4-H Clubs	4	16	15
Membership	168	175	168
No. of other families reached	200	169	463
Total No. families reached	515	775	700

Advisory Board

The County Advisory Board is composed of farm men and women who are leaders representing the twelve communities in the county and representatives of the Home Demonstration clubs. This body plans the over-all county program, sends two delegates to the State Advisory Board meeting and chooses the live-at-home community in the county.

The county wide programs sponsored by this organization were- The Farmers' Conference in February and a tour of the northside of

the county in July.

The board holds two meetings during the year to make plans and to evaluate the work that is being done by the board.

County Home Demonstration Committee

The Home Demonstration Committee is composed of two representatives in each of the nine home demonstration clubs in the county. This group is the over-all governing body for the Home Demonstration clubs. It makes the program of activities for the clubs, sends delegates to the district home demonstration committee meetings and plans county wide activities or goals for home demonstration clubs.

This committee holds one meeting yearly and a call meeting when deemed necessary.

Three delegates were sent to the district meeting in Petersburg by this committee.

County 4-H Club Council

The 4-H Club Council is composed of the officers from the clubs in the county. The leaders of the clubs serve ex-officio. The body sponsored a county wide Rural Life Sunday in May and sent delegates to the State Short Course and to the Wildlife Conference at Virginia State College in Petersburg. The president of the county council was selected to attend the third annual Regional Short Course at Petersburg.

Leaders

Adult and 4-H leaders gave 285 days of assistance during the year. They have given 28 demonstrations to adults and 126 demonstrations to 4-Hers. They held 29 adult meetings with an attendance of 433 and 63 junior meetings with an attendance of 1,100.

The leaders planned the two county wide programs, the county tour and planned all adult and h-w Club activities with the members.

Growth of Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership 1948 1949 1950				
No. Project leaders and goal chairman		18	27	27
No. Training meetings held	By Specialist		2	
	By Agent	2	5	17
Attendance at all training meetings		140	250	234
No. Club meetings held by leaders without agent present		23	31	29
No. Club Meetings at which leaders assisted		63	71	64

Growth of h-w Club Project Leadership 1948 1949 1950				
No. adult project leaders		46	54	54
No. Junior project leaders		54	38	47
No. training meetings held	By Specialist			
	By Agent	2	4	14
Attendance at leader training meetings		87	65	121
No h-w leaders trained individually		61	75	27
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present		30	46	63
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted		75	84	90
No. demonstrations given	By leaders	52	98	126
	By adults	29	57	69
	By Junior	23	41	57

Work With Other Agencies

During the year the agent worked cooperatively with the vocational home economics department, the veterans administration

and the Red Cross, the Farm Home Administration and the local health department.

Evaluation

Through the home demonstration work in Brunswick County in 1950, the rural women and girls have become aware of the fact that "better care means longer wear" and they are taking care of their furniture and equipment. They realize the important part that food plays in keeping one healthy. There is a greater desire in them to want to do more work in foods.

They are more conscious of doing things for community improvement and to lend a helping hand. These things were considered in making plans for the ensuing year and were included in the program.